

I have reviewed the comments filed with the Commission from Alan Wormser, Michael Dinelli, Fred Adsit and Tim Billingsley. I fully support their proposal for meeting the goals of the FCC and for being best for the amateur service.

The goals as outlined in their comments are to: 1. Increase technical proficiency and operating skills, and encourage upgrading. 2. To encourage use of digital modes over less-challenging modes such as SSB and FM. 3. To reserve voice modes and power output privileges as incentives to upgrade. 4. To reform the testing procedures. 5. To reverse the 11-year trend to "dumb down" the license exams.

I have used Morse code in SAR's (Search and Rescue) and understand first hand as to it's value. Now, with QRP kits being so small and mini-keyers that have beacon modes, I'm going to start packing one in my survival gear. I teach survival skills and I intend to begin suggesting that Morse code should be a part of these modern skills. My electronics and radio skills were learned because of Morse code. I started to build CW radio equipment and then started to make modifications on the rigs that I put together. Morse code skills are absolutely essential today in order to be a well rounded, experienced amateur radio operator.

Further, I have read the reply comments of Alan Wormser, Michael Dinelli, Fred Adsit and Tim Billingsley and I agree with them fully. I urge you to look closely at what these radio amat